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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 8 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you the following information concerning the latest Israeli attacks on Lebanese territory:

1. At dawn on Saturday, 5 January 1991, two Israeli Cobra helicopters raided the town of Qualia in the western Bekaa with air-to-ground missiles and heavy machine-gun fire for a period of half an hour. As a result, eight people were killed or injured, a building was destroyed and set on fire and neighbouring buildings suffered material damage.

2. On Sunday, 6 January 1991, six Israeli Air Force F-15 aircraft raided the areas of Alman, Majdelion and Salhiye, east of Sidon. They fired 16 heavy missiles at residential districts, causing the deaths of three persons, injuring five and inflicting enormous material damage on buildings and property.

In condemning and deploring these Israeli attacks, the Lebanese Government draws the international community's attention to Israel's recent dangerous military escalation in southern Lebanon. The latest attacks have caused the deaths of a number of people and destroyed buildings and property, thus adding further tension to an already strained situation in the areas of Israeli occupation and adjacent districts.

The situation in southern Lebanon requires that the United Nations, and particularly the Security Council, take a stand to prevent Israel from further violating international laws and conventions and scorning Lebanon's sovereignty, the lives of its nationals and their property.

I should be grateful if the present letter were distributed as an official document of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khalil MAKKAWI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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